CLAIMS

- A method of processing filamentary nanocarbon, comprising the steps of:
 providing a quantity of filamentary nanocarbon;
 providing a supply of high pressure, near-supercritical CO₂;
 providing a pressure vessel;
 installing said filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel;
 introducing said near-supercritical CO₂ into said pressure vessel; and,
 collecting said filamentary nanocarbon while releasing said near-supercritical
 CO₂ from said pressure vessel.
- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said collecting step is preceded by the step of agitating the mixture of said near-supercritical CO₂ and said filamentary nanocarbon.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of surfactant into said pressure vessel.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of acid into said pressure vessel.
- 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said near-supercritical CO₂ includes an acid sufficient for metal catalyst removal.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of co-solvent into said pressure vessel.
- 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of polymer to be pre-impregnated into the filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel.

- 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of polymer to be coated onto the filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel.
- 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of monomer into said pressure vessel for in-situ polymerization.
- 10. A method of processing filamentary nanocarbon, comprising the steps of: providing a quantity of filamentary nanocarbon; providing a supply of high pressure, near-supercritical CO₂; providing a pressure vessel; installing said filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel; introducing said near-supercritical CO₂ into said pressure vessel; and, releasing said near-supercritical CO₂ and said filamentary nanocarbon from said pressure vessel by spraying through a nozzle.
- 11. The method of claim 10 wherein said releasing step is preceded by the step of agitating the mixture of said near-supercritical CO₂ and said filamentary nanocarbon.
- 12. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of surfactant into said pressure vessel.
- 13. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of acid into said pressure vessel.
- 14. The method of claim 10 wherein said near-supercritical CO₂ includes an acid sufficient for metal catalyst removal.

- 15. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of co-solvent into said pressure vessel.
- 16. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of polymer to be pre-impregnated into the filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel.
- 17. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of polymer to be coated onto the filamentary nanocarbon into said pressure vessel.
- 18. The method of claim 10 wherein said installing step is preceded by the step of adding a quantity of monomer into said pressure vessel for in-situ polymerization.